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FORTY...

40 YEARS OF COOPERATION

"71"

STOCKMEN'S ASSN.

THE STORY OF
A TYPICAL LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION PRODUCING CATTLE & SHEEP
ON THE NATIONAL FOREST RANGES OF
THE INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

FOREST SERVICE
U S
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HISTORIC BACKGROUND

of

Livestock Grazing and Management on the National Forests
of the United States of America

- - - - - - - - - - -

Domestic livestock grazing in the United States dates back to 1540 when Coronado and his troops brought 1,000 horses, 500 cows and 5,000 rams and ewes from Compostello on the west coast of Mexico northeast into New Mexico. From there the expedition travelled across the prairies of Colorado and Kansas.

The livestock were driven along with the Spanish troops, used as food when needed, and to stock the settlements which were made at suitable points along the route of travel.

Since the earliest settlement period in America many producers of livestock have grazed their animals partly, or wholly, on public lands. By about 1895 all public range lands were stocked. With the establishment of "Forest Reserves" in 1898, the mountain forest land ranges were tentatively allotted to livestock growers and the range wars which had naturally accompanied their quest for more range, were fading into history.

On February 1, 1905 the Forest Service was officially transferred from the Department of the Interior to the Department of Agriculture. The "Forest Reserves" were renamed "National Forests". With this move came the policy of multiple-use, sustained-yield management which still characterizes the public's handling of its national forests.

National Forest grazing permittees were assigned grazing grounds; regulations for grazing use were outlined; cooperative management for preservation with use of the ranges and watersheds became a reality. Alongside its desire to support a healthy, continuing livestock economy, Congress intended the protection of the Nation's watershed lands to be one of the main purposes in carving "Forest Reserves" from the hitherto free-for-all mountain chains of the vast public domain lands. .The Act of June 4, 1897 makes this intent clear.

When Secretary of Agriculture, James Wilson, wrote to Gifford Pinchot, new Chief of the Forest Service, on February 1, 1905 he said (in part):

> "In the administration of the forest reserves it must be clearly borne in mind that all land is to be devoted to its most productive use for the permanent good of the whole people and not for the temporary benefit of individuals or companies. All the resources of forest reserves are for <u>use</u>, and this use must be brought about in a thoroughly prompt and businesslike manner, under such restrictions only as will insure the permanence of these resources. The vital importance of forest reserves to the great industries of the western states will be largely increased in the near future by the continued

steady advance in settlement and development. The permanence of the resources of the reserves is therefore indispensable to continued prosperity, and the policy of this Department for their protection and use will invariably be guided by this fact, always bearing in mind that the conservative use of these resources in no way conflicts with their permenent value. You will see to it that the water, wood, and forage of the reserves are conserved and wisely used for the benefit of the home-builder first of all; upon whom depends the best permanent use of lands and resources alike.

"The continued prosperity of the agricultural, lumbering, mining and livestock interests is directly dependent upon a permanent and accessible supply of water, wood, and forage, as well as upon the present and future use of these resources under businesslike regulations, enforced with promptness, effectiveness, and common sense. In the management of each reserve local questions will be decided upon local grounds; the dominant industry will be considered first, but with as little restriction to minor industries as may be possible; sudden changes in industrial conditions will be avoided by gradual adjustment after due notice; and where conflicting interests must be reconciled, the question will always be decided from the standpoint of the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run."

THE LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION

Simultaneously with the beginning of grazing administration on the national forests, the great value of livestock Advisory Boards became apparent. This method of accomplishing range improvements through cooperative effort, by the pooling of funds, by the exchange of ideas, and by the dispersal of knowledge was recognized as early as 1906 in the Forest Service Use Book, Regulation 69, which states:

"Whenever any livestock association whose membership includes a majority of the owners of any class of livestock using a forest reserve or portion thereof shall appoint a committee for such purpose, an agreement on the part of which committee shall be binding upon the association, such committee, upon application to the Forester, may be recognized as an Advisory Board for the association, and shall then be entitled to receive notice of proposed action and have an opportunity to be heard by the local forest officer in reference to increase or decrease in the number of stock to be allowed for any year, the division of the range between different kinds of stock or their owners, or the adoption of special rules to meet local conditions."

The first grazing association in the Intermountain Region (on the Uinta National Forest) was organized in the year 1906. Today, there are more than 800 associations doing business on the Nation's national forests. There are some 280 local associations operating on the 20 national forests of the Intermountain Region and seven State Associations. The many cooperative problems connected with the business of pasturing 400,000 cattle and 1,300,000 sheep

on 18-1/3 million acres of national forest range land receive their constant attention and aid.

As investments in the tremendous grazing business, the Forest Service working closely with the Associations has installed 4,200 water developments; 3,800 miles of range fences; restored 337,000 acres of depleted range to productivity through reseeding; and built 1,200 miles of stock driveways. Poisonous plants, rodents, and predators have been controlled and grazing management standards have been raised as a result of the steady cooperative efforts of livestock associations through the years. In many instances the Associations have raised funds and contributed manpower to accomplish better livestock management through these range improvement programs.

It is about a typical example of the Associations in the Intermountain Region that this booklet is written. It is a tribute to the cooperative effort by which the intermountain livestock growers earn their daily bread from that miraculous process of converting plant life to meat, leather, clothing,- an endless chain of goods created by and from the cow and the sheep.

New improvements made yearly, constant increases in knowledge on how to handle the range lands and a greater appreciation of the range problems, are all adding up to progress and continued accomplishment in our common goal to benefit the industry and resource through better range management.

"71"

One of the first brands in Three Creek Valley, Idaho, "71" was brought in by the Roberson Brothers and dates back to 1871. In those days range took the name of the brand. Today, the range which once nurtured "71" brand cattle is the range used cooperatively by the members of the "71" livestock association. It is on the Humboldt National Forest and the Association has a right to be proud of the range improvement program it has carried on cooperatively with the Forest Service through the years.

The "71" range today is showing the effects of the long-time program of the members of the "71" livestock association. Through their joint effort with the United States Forest Service it is being restored to the productiveness that existed in the early days of the "71" brand.

A section of the "71" range south of Three Creek, Idaho.

IN THE BEGINNING . . . .

The original members of "71".

Twin Falls, Idaho - Nov. 26, 1917 - At a meeting of the stockmen of Three Creek, J. E. Hawes was elected temporary chairman to act at the first regular meeting at Three Creek on December 15; J. M. Helsley was elected temporary Treasurer; L. M. Bettis, temporary Secretary. The following resolution was passed:

"BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That we the undersigned cattlemen, all taxpayers in Owyhee and Twin Falls Counties do hereby agree to form the "71" stockmen's association for the purpose of bettering conditions on the range."

L.M. Bettis
J.P. Hartwell
J.E. Hawes
C.B. Patrick
J.M. Helsley
J.F. Clark
W.B. Clark
Karl D. Patrick
Neal Beaton
Dick Clark
Wm. S. Clark
Glen E. France
J.C. McCormick
I.C. Conway
L.R. Estis
Altie Estis
J.A. McCoy
F.J. Walters
S.V. Dunn
W.F. Parsons
J.H. Pinkston
Arthur Pence, Jr.
Jas. D. Pence

Twin Falls, Idaho - Nov. 26, 1917 - Mr. L. M. Bettis wrote Oscar Mink, Forest Ranger, Humboldt National Forest, Jarbidge, Nevada, that - "The stockmen of Three Creek and the surrounding country have decided to hold an open meeting at the Three Creek Post Office on Saturday, December 15, 1917," and asked that he attend.

Jarbidge, Nevada - Dec. 2, 1917 - Ranger Mink replied by letter: . . . "I will be there and furnish all the information you ask."

Three Creek, Idaho - Dec. 15, 1917 - The objective of banding together, Article II, of the first constitution adopted at the first meeting read:

> "The objective of this association shall be to promote interest and protect the business of raising cattle and horses; to do all things lawful, just, and necessary to better the interests of members of the association; to secure equitable and just legislation and grazing regulations, and to work in cooperation with the Forest Service in the protection and economical use of all products of the Humboldt National Forest."

Ogden, Utah - March 30, 1917 - "Since your constitution and by-laws meet all the requirements of the provisions of Regulation G-3, your organization is hereby given official recognition . . ." "We are glad to note that the stockmen of your locality have seen fit to develop a livestock association and feel sure that this organization will result both to the advantage of the stockmen and the Forest Service." - L. F. Kneipp, District Forester.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Back Row - L to R:
John Pence
Harry Noh
Jim Pence
W. B. Clark
George Clark

Front Row - L to R:
Joe Caudle
Carl Patrick
Tom McMillian

The original members of "71" photographed at Three Creek school, annual meeting of the association - May 24, 1952.

"71" ASSOCIATION OFFICERS . . . .

Joseph E. Hawes was born in Boise, Idaho, the son of a pioneer cattleman. He was among the first settlers in Bruneau Valley and ran cattle in the Big Springs country of Owyhee County, Idaho, before coming to Three Creek, Idaho, where he went into partnership with his brother-in-law, G. I. Turner.

Mr. Hawes was first President of the Association and active in its organization. The first Secretary was L. M. Bettis and the first Treasurer, J. M. Helsley. Members of the first Advisory Board were: J. E. Hawes, W. B. Clark, L. M. Bettis, J. M. Helsley, J. McCormick, C. R. Patrick and Neal Beaton.

1918 - 1920 J. E. Hawes, President; W. B. Clark, Vice-President; J. D. Pence, Secretary; J. M. Helsley, Treasurer.

1920 - 1922 Karl Patrick, President; Neal Beaton, Vice-President; Clate Patrick, Secretary, Harry Noh, Treasurer.

1922 - 1924 W. B. Clark, President; A. C. Reynolds, Vice-President; J. G. Hayden, Secretary; Harry Noh, Treasurer.

1924 - 1928 W. B. Clark, President; J. E. Hawes, Vice-President; Mrs. Olga Jones, Secretary; Glen Frichter (Bank of Rogerson), Treasurer

1928 - 1933 R. J. Hawes, President; Harry Noh, Vice-President; George W. Clark, Secretary-Treasurer.

1933 - 1934 J. E. Hawes, President; Lawrence Bettis, Vice-President; Olga Jones, Secretary-Treasurer.

1934 - 1935 J. E. Hawes, President; K. D. Patrick, Vice-President; Olga Jones, Secretary-Treasurer.

1935 - 1936 J. E. Hawes, President; Maurice Guerry, Vice-President; Eva Dunn, Secretary-Treasurer.

1936 - 1941 Oren F. Boies, President; Maurice Guerry, Vice-President; Eva Dunn, Secretary-Treasurer.

1941 - 1945 Archie Bowman, President; Maurice Guerry, Vice-President; Noy Brackett, Secretary-Treasurer.

1945 - 1950 Martin Curran, President; W. B. Clark, Vice-President; Noy Brackett, Secretary-Treasurer.

1950 - Martin Curran, President; Dan Larios, Vice-President; Noy Brackett, Secretary-Treasurer.

The First President's Wife.

Adelaide Turner became Mrs. J. E. Hawes in 1898. She is author of "Valley of the Tall Grass" and her two sons John P. and Roland J. have followed their father's footsteps in the cattle business. Both are active members of "71".

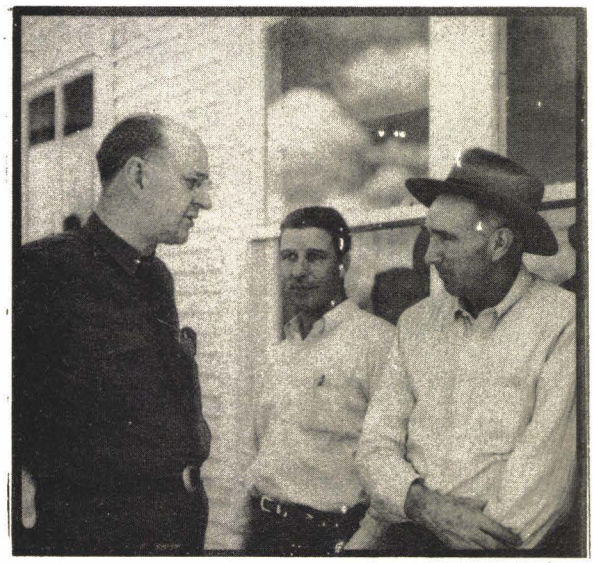
HUMBOLDT NATIONAL FOREST OFFICERS WHO HAVE WORKED WITH THE "71" LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION MEMBERS:

Forest Rangers:

Oscar Mink - Deceased
C. J. Olsen - Regional Forester
Thomas J. Wells - Resigned
L. E. McKenzie - Retired
Q. David Hansen - Ranger, Manti-LaSal N. F.
T. C. Haycock - Ranger, Fishlake N. F.
Karl J. Wilkinson - Deceased
Tom E. Brierly - Ranger, Humboldt N. F.
Ulrich Zuberbuhler - Forester, Targhee N. F.
Roy C. Kuhner - Resigned
Wm. L. Price - Federal Bureau of Investigation
James Butler - Ranger, Nevada N. F.
Hallie Cox - Incumbent

Forest Supervisors:

C. E. Favre - Retired
Charles DeMoisy - Retired
Alexander McQueen - Deceased
A. R. Torgerson - Incumbent



C. J. Olsen, or "Chet", as he is known by "71" members and their wives, came to the Jarbidge District as a ranger shortly after "71" was organized. His early associations have never been forgotten, and now as Regional Forester he holds the annual meeting of "71" high on his agenda. Here he swaps stories with Robert Officer, and Fred Hoezle at the 1952 annual meeting at Three Creek schoolhouse.

THE "71" MEETING - May 24, 1952

Yes, it's grown! In this picture are 76 people who attended the

First on the program was what most everybody came for, to renew acquaintances, to visit, to swap stories, and to talk a little business.

(L. to R.) A. R. Torgerson, Mr. Campbell, Dan Larios and Martin Curran.

35th annual spring meeting and get-together of the "71" livestock association.

Rube Hullinger
Ray Blick

John Pence
Tom McMillian
Jim Pence

Harold Rutledge
Andrew Harrell
Wm. Merdith

Original members, their wives, and widows of deceased members:

(Back row - L. to R.)
John Pence
Harry Noh
Jim Pense
W. B. Clark
Carl Patrick
George Clark
Tom McMillian

(Front row - L.to R)
Mrs. Cally Ross
Mrs. W. B. Clark
Mrs. Carl Patrick
Mrs. Tom McMillian
Mrs. J. E. Hawes
Mrs. George Clark

A great day for the kids, too!!

Introducing the ladies - - loyal supporters and backers of "71".

Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Brackett and others teamed up to put on a fine lunch.

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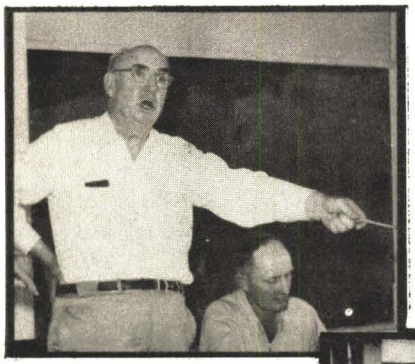


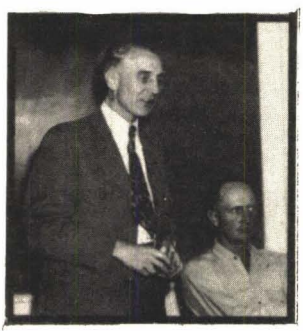
As the meeting opened, President Martin Curran made sure that everyone was assembled. The folks enjoyed his humorous opening comments and the meeting was under way.

Regional Forester "Chet" Olsen recounted milestones of progress in range restoration and expressed his sincere appreciation for "folks like you".

Leon Weeks, Secretary of the Idaho Cattleman's Association speaking about the Beef Tour of 1952 said "They want to see how you do the job of raising beef. At Boise it seemed like everybody from Three Creek won a prize."

J. V. Briggs, Owyhee County's hard working County Agent said speaking about his new grass experiments, "I'm going to show you grass like you've never seen before."

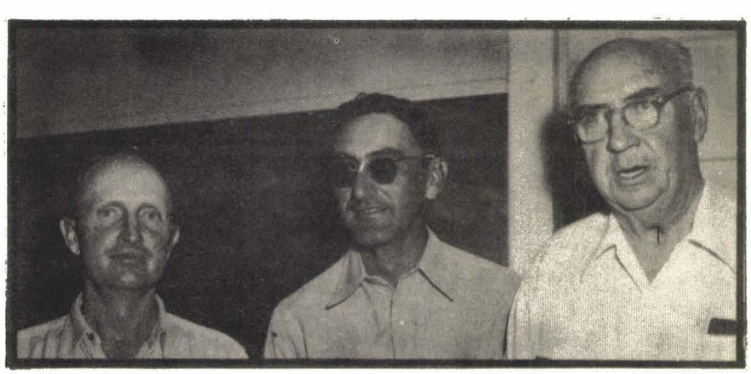
Adelaide Hawes said, "When we first came to the valley, the bunchgrass waving on the hillsides seemed to be beckoning to us". Past 70, she is still vitally interested in "71" and one of its staunch supporters.



Mel Claar, Secretary of the Idaho Woolgrowers Association, emphasized the importance of belonging to the association and to wildlife organizations, "So we can be well represented and bring our story to the sportsmen."

Tom Murray, Director of the Idaho State Fish and Game Commission, says, "I try to put first things first and to me the ranges come first. We are the custodians - you the owners. We are working for you."

Noy Brackett, Secretary
Dan Larios, Vice-Pres.
Martin Curran, President
- - just after being re-elected.

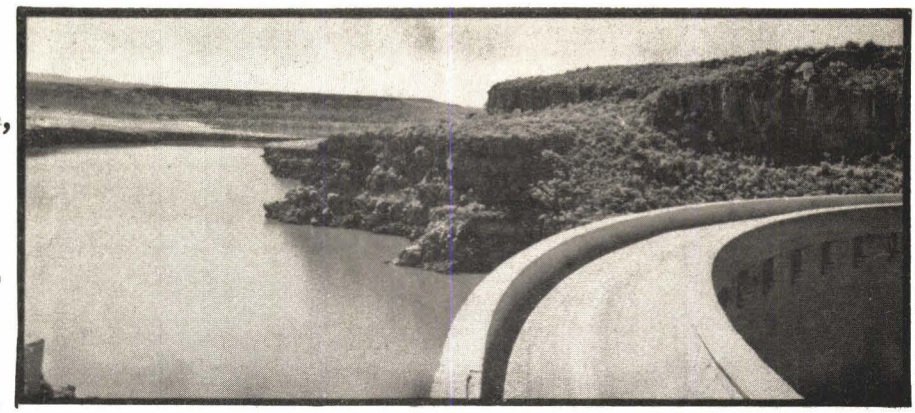


After a little more visiting, the 1952 annual spring meeting of the "71" Livestock Association had faded into history. But, the results of these friendly gatherings are showing up out where it counts - - on the "71" range.

THE "71" RANGE VITAL FOR WATER AND FORAGE

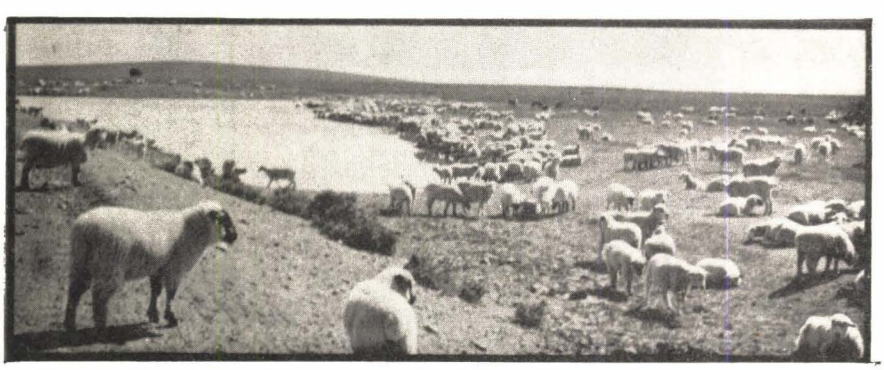
WATER

Salmon Falls River Dam Reservoir receives water from Canyon Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Camp Creek and Wilson Creek on the Humboldt N. F. It is the main water supply for 35,000 acres of irrigated land in the Hollister, Twin Falls, Kimberley, and Aberdeen area of Idaho.



Aug. 15, 1952, this group of members from the Salmon Falls River Canal Co. visited water-producing areas on the "71" range. Here they paused to examine a reseeding enclosure at the head of Pole Creek. They're very much interested in the way "71" ranges are managed because these lands also produce a vital part of their irrigation water.

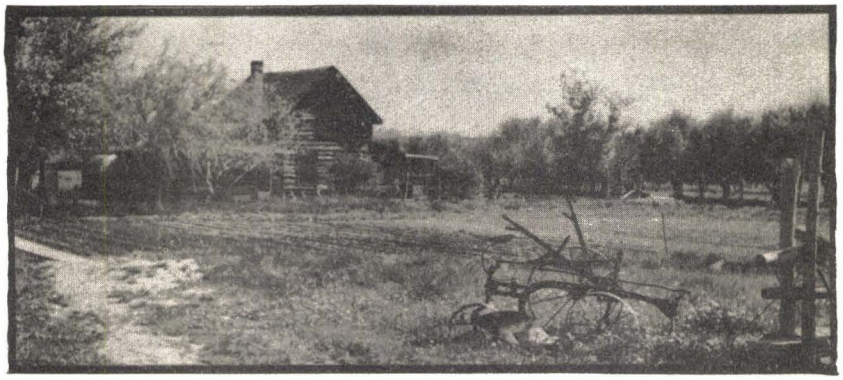
(L.to R.) W. T. Williams, Twin Falls;
A. J. Farrer, Hollister;
P. H. Pringle, Kimberley;
Joel Gaslin, Aberdeen;
M. E. Courtney, Hollister;
J. P. Bellville, Twin Falls.



This reservoir on B.L.M. grazing land adjacent to national forest range is another vital use of the water produced on "71" range lands.

I R R I G A T I O N

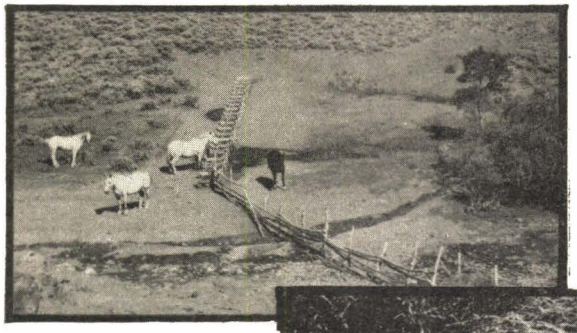
Typical ranch spread in Three Creek Valley. Irrigation water produced on the "71" range is a "must" to sustain life in Three Creek Valley.



Said to be the oldest home in Three Creek Valley, this solid log structure was erected in 1885. It is now the home of Mrs. Ora Brackett who came to the valley from Texas with her husband in 1912. The garden, too, must have water from "71" ranges.

STOCK WATERING

Ray Clark and Noy Brackett pause to water their horses at this tank of clear water - - a cooperative project on Three Creek. Good range and good watershed go hand in hand. If one is good the other is good and both supply an even, dependable flow of clear water from springs and streams.

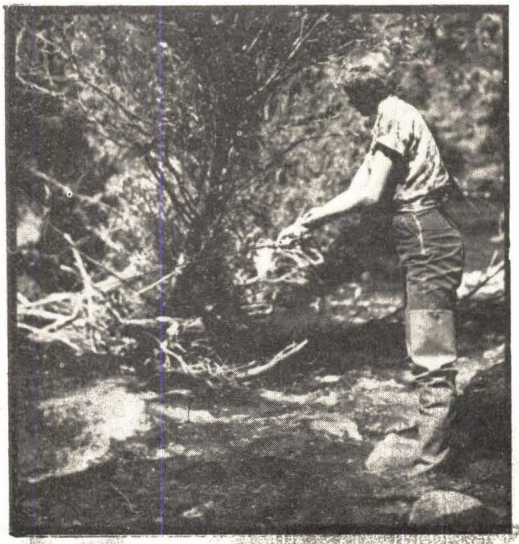


Canyon Creek-Pocket, water development on the "71" range

and

... water from Cherry Creek for use in Three Creek Valley.

Water from Canyon Creek for use in Twin Falls Valley.



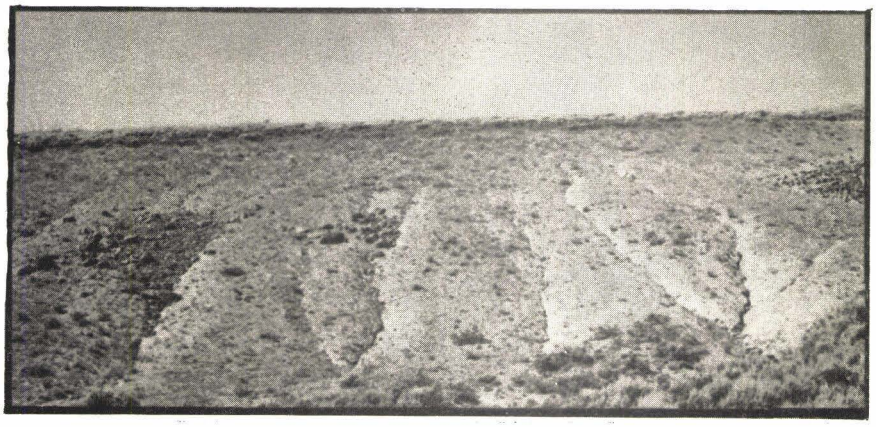
Cottonwood Creek - water for fishing and wildlife.

F O R A G E

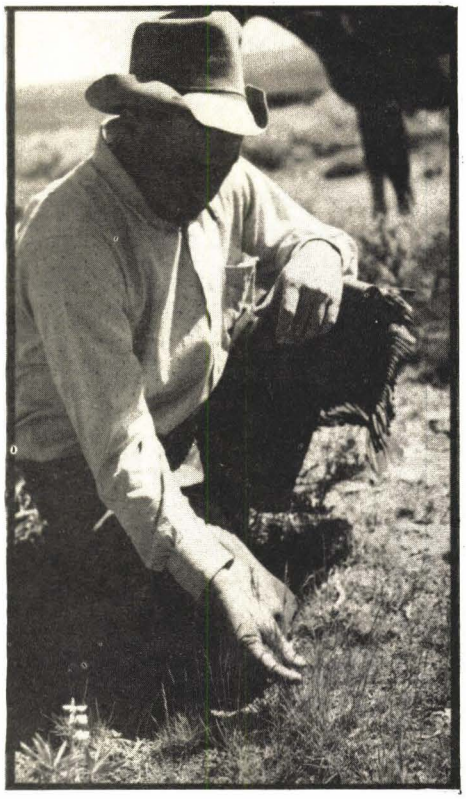
A TRIP ON THE "71" RANGE - - -

The occasion for this trip onto part of the Humboldt N.F. range by Supervisor A. R. Torgerson and four Association members - Ray Blick, Ray Clark, Merle Row and Noy Brackett - was to discuss the construction of a range division fence which would control a drift problem.

Noy Brackett points out a remnant clump of grass dating back to the days when the range was used by too many livestock. The clump just in front of his hand stands about 2 inches above the surface of the ground showing a terrific soil loss begun in early days of range abuse.



A gully area in Slide Creek - at one time the range was heavily grazed and badly eroded, but now under good range management it shows signs of becoming stabilized.



Ray Blick examines a healthy clump of Sandberg's bluegrass, one of the species present in the area.

Noy Brackett points out where he thinks would be a good location for the division fence.

On the way over to Three Creek from Cherry Creek, Merle Row stopped to tack up a wire loosened by winter snows. This division fence was constructed as a cooperative project by the Association in 1940.

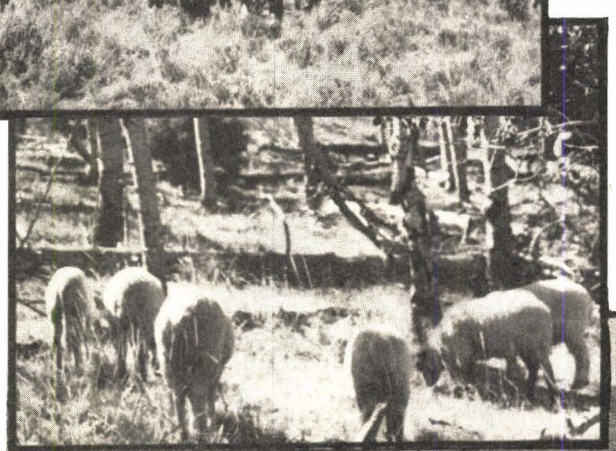
There is good grass on parts of the "71" range - - good forage, good watershed.

A heavily used area. Note the closely eaten vegetation and bare soil - - too much use on a potentially good range.

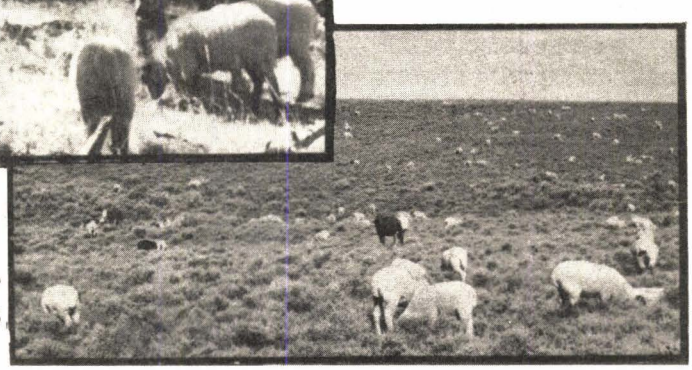
A Serviceberry bush which has been too heavily used for many years. The "71" Association is working with the Forest Service and dedicating its efforts to the cure of such "sick plants, sick range, and watersheds."

"71" ASSOCIATION LIVESTOCK

Cross Y cattle at the head of Caudle Creek. Fence divides the two cattle allotments on "71" range.



Sheep in aspen on Worley Brothers Allotment.



Cattle and sheep grazing together on Ed Wells' range below Humboldt N. F. boundary near Pole Creek road.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT

Much of the "71" range has a good stand of grass overgrown with sagebrush. A project to destroy the sagebrush by roto-beater is sponsored by the Association and a large area is being covered this year at the head of Slide Creek. The association pays half the cost.

A close-up shows the beat-up sagebrush stalks and the nice stand of native grass beneath it.

Experimental plots such as this one on the "71" range show what can be accomplished in range restoration by demonstrating the brush removal, cultural, and planting methods that will best succeed.

IMPORTANT MILESTONES OF PROGRESS:

1917 - Organization

1918 - Salting and water development plans formulated.

1919 - Range drift fence location agreed upon - 22 miles begun; opening grazing season dates established.

1920 - Boundary set between cattle and sheep; trespass problems tackled.

Poison plant eradication discussed to prevent cattle losses; 12 miles fence completed.

1921 - Rodent poisoning program begun.

1922 - Drift fence completed - maintenance plan approved.

1924 - Plan set up for separate Advisory Boards for cattle and sheep. New constitution drafted and adopted. Trespass eliminated.

1926 - Installed rider to regulate drift.

1928 - Passed a resolution that range forfeited or vacated be not realloted to new applicants but be distributed to provide adequate forage for the livestock using the range.

1929 - Allotment adjustments made. Period necessary to establish transferable permits extended from 3 to 5 years.

1933 - Sheep and cattle transfers for range improvement. Filed on stock driveway.

1934 - Sheep driveway study. Recommendations made for new applicants, transfers and exchanges. Permit valuations begun;Forest Service policies and business trends studied.

Three Creek and Diamond A units recommended for inclusion in Humboldt National Forest.

1935 - A rule requiring one bull per 30 head breeding stock established; cattle theft assistant appointed; CCC Camp requested.

1936 - Range boundary lines established. Opening dates adjusted.

1937 - Used CCC's for road and range improvements.

Allotment line adjustment between Three Creek cattle and Maurice Guerry sheep.

1939 - CCC range improvements; brand inspections; cricket control; joined State Association.

1940 - Coyote control launched.

1942 - Telephone service studied; draft deferments discussed.

1943 - Meat ceiling control studied.

1944 - Joined National Association.

1945 - Forest grazing fee study; ladies present first time; building funds obtained for a Three Creek to Rogerson Road.

1946 - Cattle drift and 10-year permits examined; stock improvement program launched; meat prices studied.

1947 - Planned use funds for range improvements; tick and louse control arranged.

1948 - Cooperation with County Agent planned; rodent and predatory animal control programmed; range burning discussed.

1949 - Reseeding program broadened; cooperation with sportsmen's group economy expanded; brand law enforcement planned.

1950 - Halogeton control extended; yellow fever cure adopted.

1951 - Airstrip arranged; sagebrush control by Roto-beater outlined.

1952 - Big game problems discussed; reseeding program extended, explained and discussed.

"Siesta time on the range"

"71" MEMBERSHIP IN 1952:

J. D. Pence, Buhl, Idaho
Maurice Guerry, Castleford, Idaho
Rolland Patrick, Rogerson, Idaho
John Salls, Jarbidge, Nevada
Felix Selaya, Castleford, Idaho
Martin Curran, Hagerman, Idaho
Ray Blick, Three Creek, Idaho
Opal Dunn, Three Creek, Idaho
G. F. DeKlotz, Filer, Idaho
Ed Wells, Twin Falls, Idaho
R. J. Hawes, Twin Falls, Idaho
Mrs. J. E. Hawes, Twin Falls, Idaho
John Hawes, Twin Falls, Idaho
W. J. Hicks, Buhl, Idaho
Noy Elbert Brackett, Three Creek, Idaho
Merle Row, Three Creek, Idaho
Karl Patrick, Rogerson, Idaho
Walter Gilmer, Metropolis, Nevada
George W. Clark & Sons, Three Creek, Idaho
Three Creek Land & Livestock Co.
Mary E. Worley & Sons, Castleford, Idaho
Balantine Barinaga, Castleford, Idaho

IN APPRECIATION - -

To the members of the national forest livestock associations and to their families, the Forest Service extends its sincere appreciation for long years of concerted effort and cooperation toward our common goal - successful range and watershed management.

These efforts help assure the American people that each acre of their valuable national forest rangelands will continue to make the fullest contribution of which it is capable. They contribute to a steady restoration of our soils, watersheds and ranges. They impart a satisfaction of accomplishment, and a knowledge that our children will reap benefits which only healthy, natural, renewable resources can give. They further the common welfare and the stability of community life.

These are the rewards for long, faithful, progressive stewardships of the land.